

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 08486 051110Z

11

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SCCT-01 DHA-02 SY-05 /071 W

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O 051020Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5130

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS BEIRUT 8486

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, LE

SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE OF COL. MORGAN'S ABDUCTION

1. PRESS COVERAGE OF COL. MOORGAN'S ABDUCTION GREATLY
DIMINISHED JULY 5, ALTHOUGH MANY PAPERS REPORT STATEMENTS
OF STATE DEPARMENT SPOKESMAN JULY 3.

2. LEADING INDEPENDENT "AN-NAHAR" AND OTHER PAPERS
REPORT AMBASSADOR'S CALLS ON PESIDENT FRANJIEH AND
INTERIORMINISTER/FORMER PRESIDENT CHAMOUN. CHAMOUN IS
QUOTED AS SAYING IN RESPONSE TO PRESS QUERY THAT
NOTHING HAS BEEN LEARNED ABOUT MORGAN, BUT INTERNAL
SECURITY IS STILL CONDUCTING ITS INVESTIGATION, AND HE
HOPES MORGAN WILL REAPPEAR.

3. PRO-EGYPTIAN "AL-YAWM" ATTRIBUTES FOLLOWING
"OBSERVATIONS" TO "INFORMED CICRLES": (A) AMEMBASSY HAS
NOT SHOWN GREAT INTEREST IN SUBJECT OF COLONEL
(B) IT IS SUSPICIOUS THAT MORGAN STAYED ON IN BEIRUT,
WHILE HIS COMPANIONS WENT ON TO TURKEY; (C) SINCE MORGAN
IS EXPERT IN AIR DEFENSE, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT EITHER
HE VOLUNTARILY JOINED ONE OF EXTREMIST GROUPS IN LEBANON
OR CIA ITSELF CAUSED HIM TO DISAPPEAR, AS IT HAS DONE IN
MANY SIMILAR CASES.

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4. LEFTIST PRO-LIBYAN "AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI" FANTASIZES
EDITORIALLY THAT ONE OF FOLLOWING THINGS MAY HAVE BEFALLEN
MORGAN: (A) POOR PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN SHIYAH AREA MAY HAVE
KIDNAPPED HIM TO SHOW THEIR EMNITY FOR AMERICA; (B) HE
MAY HAVE DISAPPEARED TO MANUFACTURE CRISIS
WITH LEBANON AS PRETEXT FOR INTERVENTION; (D) PHALANGE
MAY HAVE KILLED HIM TO AGGRAVATE CONDITIONS IN LEBANON
AND ENCOURAGE U.S. INTERVENTION; (E) HE MAY HAVE ENTERED
LEBANON UNDER ONE NAME AND LEFT UNDER ANOTHER IN ORDER
TO ENGAGE IN PLOTS IN NEIGHBORING ARAB COUNTRY.
GODLEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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